2nd March 1929]

Licences in Forms XVIII and XIX contained in Schedule VIII of the above rules are also granted free of all fee. No special qualifications have been prescribed for applicants for a licence in Form XVIII but a licence in Form XIX is granted only to bona fide cultivators.

Number of licences for fire arms granted in 1927 and 1928.

* 1626 *Q.*—Mr. K. V. R. Swami : Will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of licences granted in 1927 and 1928 for fire arms ; and

(*b*) the kind of fire arms for which licences were granted ?

A.—(*a*) & (*b*) The information for 1927 [a] is contained in Statements I and III appended to G.O. No. 1064, Public, dated 28th November 1928, which has been placed on the table. The information for 1928 has not been received yet.

Inland Waterways

Restrictions on the Narsapur-Razole ferry traffic.

* 1627 *Q.*—Mr. J. Bheemayya : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) (i) the conditions of traffic that prevailed and the approximate number of passengers that used to travel by the river from Narsapur to Razole and back and the intermediate stations in the year 1895 when the Canals and Public Ferries Act, 1890, was put into operation there ; and

(ii) the approximate number of passengers in the year 1927 ;

(*b*) the circumstances under which Narsapur and Razole were defined to be the limits of a ferry which in Notification No. 29, dated 30th December 1895 was declared to be subject to the provisions of section 8 of the above Act ;

(*c*) whether the Government have issued any notification at any time up till now restricting the public rights of free navigation along the river for these 12 miles between Narsapur and Razole ; and

(*d*) if so, the number and date of such notification and whether it will be placed on the table of the House ?

A.—(*a*) The Government have called for a report.

(*b*) In 1895, because of cases where boats and ballacuts plying on the Vasishta Godavari river between Narasapur and Razole capsized, resulting in loss of life, the Collector and President, District Board, Godavari, proposed that a ferry service between Narsapur and Razole should be established by means of a steam launch, and suggested that the Canals and Public Ferries Act (II of 1890) might be extended to the proposed ferry. This was approved by the Government in December 1895.

(*c*) & (*d*) Beyond applying the Canals and Public Ferries Act to this ferry, the Government have placed no further restrictions on traffic on that river.

[a] Printed as Appendix II on pages 443-457 infra.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*a*) of this question, will the Government be pleased to place the report on the table of the House as soon at it is received ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" We will consider that question after we have read the report, not as soon as it is received."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know whether the Government are aware that the High Court has recently held that the notification of the Government referred to in the answer ultra vires ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" I have seen a report to that effect."

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" May I know whether the Government are contemplating to issue any other notification under that Act ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" What action should be taken in consequence is a matter that is under consideration at the present moment."

Annual income from the Narsapur-Razole ferry from 1896 *to* 1927.

* 1628 *Q.*—Mr. J. BHEEMAYYA : Will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether the Government have any information regarding the annual collections for each of the 32 years from 1896 to 1927 remitted to the Narsapur sub-treasury by the persons running the ferry from Narsapur to Razole and back as required by rule 15 of the Notification No. 30, dated 30th December 1895 ;

(*b*) if not, whether the Government will be pleased to call for a statement showing the annual receipts and expenditure of the said ferry submitted to the office of the President, District Board, Kistna and West Godavari, as required by rule 16 of the above notification for all the 32 years and place the same on the table of the House ;

(*c*) the year when the ferry was entrusted to the management of the Kistna District Board and whether that Government Order will be placed on the table of the House ; and

(*d*) whether the procedure required by rules 15 and 16 of Notification No. 30, dated 30th December 1895, was subsequently altered and, if so, when and in what manner ?

A.—(*a*), (*b*) & (*d*).—The Government have called for a report.

(*c*) The ferry was entrusted to the management of the Kistna District Board in 1905. G.O. No. 1041,[a] Revenue, dated 25th October 1905, is laid on the table.

Mr. D. NARAYANA RAJU :—" With reference to the answers given in clauses (*a*), (*b*) and (*d*), may I know whether the report would be placed on the table of the House ? "

The hon. Sir NORMAN MARJORIBANKS :—" That suggestion will be considered."

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[a] Printed as Appendix III on page 458 infra.